

REPORT.

There is no State in the Union more interested in Internal Improvements than Maryland, nor is there one more susceptible of enjoying all the advantages resulting from them. Nature has blessed her with a fertile soil, abundant rivers and streams, fine forests of timber, rich stores of minerals and metals, an intelligent, enterprising, moral, industrious and patriotic population; and she is governed by tolerant and just laws, administered with a fidelity never surpassed. Her borders watered by two of the noblest streams of this continent, and intersected by innumerable rivers, inlets and bays, whilst the Chesapeake Bay—the Estuary of those streams unrivalled in extent and beauty, affords the best as well as the most inviting accommodations for her commerce. At the head of which sits in lofty pride (embellished by monumental tributes to patriotism and splendid evidences of the arts) the Emporium of the State.

To cultivate these unrivalled gifts that have been so bountifully bestowed upon her—seems now to be the policy of her Legislature; and your Committee, in the execution of the duties allotted to them, have endeavoured to collect from the various companies that have been authorized by the Legislature to construct Roads, and Canals, such information as they deemed essential to enable your honorable body, to form a correct view of the progress and utility of the improvements hitherto patronized by the State; and to justify the continuance and extension of that patronage.

It will be seen from the accompanying statements and reports, that our geographical position, the productions of our soils, forests and rivers, and the enterprize of our Manufacturers are likely to receive all the aid, which modern science and civil Engineering can afford, and that in addition to the facilities hitherto enjoyed, we are about to ensure the unlimited